

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Next Meeting August 10

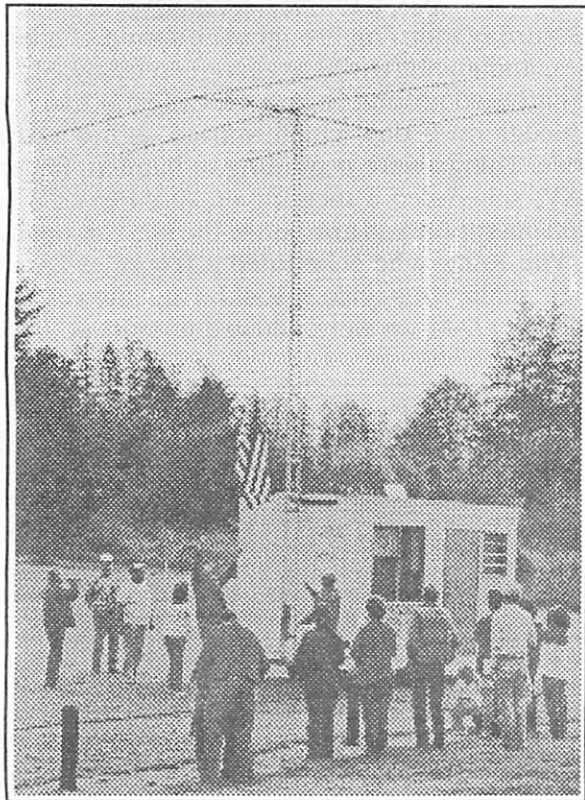
AUG

Lorna Campbell, KA7RFD, Editor

Field Day, 1988

Dee, KA7NPN

The 1988 Field Day event had a lot to offer for everyone. The weather was great, which brought out all the tents and trailers. We even had one of those funny looking tents with long poles sticking out of the top. It would have doubled as a disc cone antenna. KA7RNN, Roger did have a lot of fun putting up his tepee. Don't ask Terry, WB7CHK, about the fun part. He had trouble with putting the stakes in the ground! This year the tepee housed the 20-meter phone station. It was quite effective keeping the bugs out as well as the sun. If you remember last year, we moved the station under an adjacent shade tree. Unfortunately, it was the home of some man pestering bugs.



Raising The Flag At F/D 1988

The early bird campers arrived on Thursday evening to stake out their locations. Terry and I were the first to arrive. It's important to get the grounds marked off to ensure the stations don't compete with some squatters rights. After the camps were laid out, it was time to survey for any left out items.

First off, Sue, N7EPE, forgot the eggs—an important item for Friday's breakfast. Willie, N7DZR, forgot a bolt and nut for his 2-meter beam. This called for creativity and resourcefulness, which he did bring along. The antenna required a 2.5 inch number 8 or 10 bolt. We looked through everyone's junk boxes. Short and big is what we had the most of. Finally, I found a bolt that was near the right size but it lacked the proper size nut. Ingenuity prevailed as we had an undersized nut and a tap, so Willie put up his shingle as a "master" machinist and rethreaded the nut.

It didn't take Willie long to get on the air. It proved to be good practice as Will had to hang out his sign once more that weekend to rethread the driven elements for the 4 element 20-meter beam. I didn't get the whole story, but I understand Willie was practicing to be a blacksmith. Something about working on a bike chain with "two" padlocks. Anyway, thanks to Willie for taking care of Murphy. Also, Willie doesn't work for peanuts. We had to feed him popcorn.

Thursday evening brought in a few more early arrivals to enjoy the time prior to Field Day setup on Friday. Friday morning was beautiful and quiet. The local bunnies were out grazing and the birds were chirping. Last year's crop duster scheduled his Field Day event again this year. All in all, it was a pleasant morning. Mikael, my son, prepared a belated Father's Day breakfast, as those events often get deferred around our house. Steak and —, whoops, we forgot them too. Oh well, it's lower on the cholesterol not to bring them.

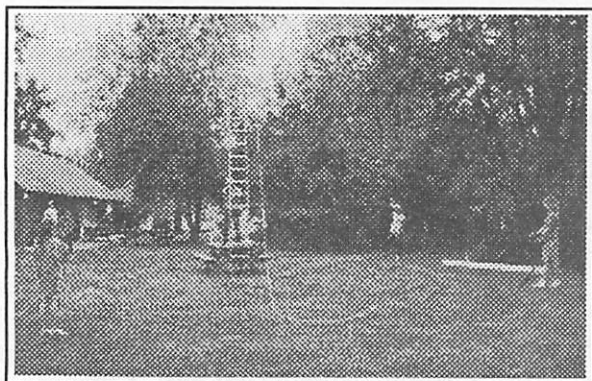
More rigs started to show around 10AM. By

Continued Next Page

11AM we had mustered enough crew to start setup. We started on the easiest first. That's to get the hang of it and to make us feel good about our accomplishments. In reality, if time were important, that's what we would do. Anyway, we immediately put up the emergency trailer phone station, which could be safely set up with as few as two people. After partial installation of the trailer station, a smaller group was sent off to start assembly on the 4 element 20-meter beam. The trailer group then joined the 20-meter group to start on the tower.

It was then discovered that Willie's machine shop would need to start up again. Willie went right to work on putting in new tapped holes to connect to the balun. Meanwhile, the 20-meter tower was being put in place. It seems as if this part of the event should have been postponed to allow sufficient time for the bullhorn operator to arrive. My ears are still ringing from the remarks he made when he finally showed! I wish he had just turned down the volume! Anyway, the tower was put in place and the beam placed on top. At this time we had to watch out for flying arrows as "Robin Hood" Al, WB7SIC was placing the lines over the trees for the dipoles. Things went very well in Al's department until we got to the CW station. We decided we made the same mistake last year in placing the position of the CW dipoles. Maybe next year we will remember.

After the 20-meter phone station was completed, the group moved to the CW trailer station to put that beam in position. Things went well with the beam but the 80 and 40-meter dipoles needed to be combined on one coax line. Willie brought out his butane soldering iron, but the task was too great for the iron, so he opened up shop with a 110 generator and solder gun. Victory was soon at hand and the dipoles put in place.



Novice Station Going Up

It was crash time for the main group with the Novice/Tech station being the last to go up. They needed the ladder we used from the 20-meter phone station. A group of Novices, Technicians and non-

hams put the station together. The ladder tower uses four guying points for each section of the ladder. This technique places less stress on the ladder itself. The ladder was placed at the end of a picnic table to allow the bottom section a support point. After the bottom section was fully guyed, Mikael placed a 3 element 10-meter beam on top of the tower. This portion of the station assembly became a training session for all. A ladder tower is a step up in safety over a crankup tower in that it carries with it a safety catch which can be engaged at every run. John, KB7DHR, did the honor of raising the ladder the last 15 feet. The station was completed by placing a 6-band vertical on a nearby water pipe. With the station antennas placed in position, it was time to have Friday dinner. It was clever of us to end up only 30 feet from the cook shack.



**Novice Station In Operation, Debbie, N7KAE
Dee, KA7NPN and Friend**

Saturday morning brought the sound of a lone bugle commencing the flag raising ceremony. Many were gathered around the phone trailer site to give our pledge on a day which started with a warm sunrise. Things were beginning to happen. Roger, K7RXV, scheduled a meeting at 10AM to go over station operation and announce the starting operators. You know who scheduled a few solar flares, just to make this year's Field Day interesting. Finally at 11AM we were allowed to start stations operating.



You Said It Goes Where?

Things went along slowly for a while until a couple of stations had problems with power connections at the battery terminals. They were quickly put back into full operation with new terminal connectors. A backup rig was needed to replace the trailer phone rig and only time could remedy the solar flare problem. Field Day events are not expected to always go smoothly and this one was no exception. Even with the solar flares and low turnout in station operators, we did quite well. My brother-in-law's group did not fair very well. They went to a high spot in California and found an over abundance of electricity...the kind that comes without warning and leaves with a bang. Not the kind of weather you put up antennas in.

Take down operations started off smoothly. Many of the dipole antennas came down before operating stopped. Once we got the the 20-meter phone station there was a short delay over a 100+ foot rope and the mind twisting humor of a "bull-horn operator". I wonder how many stripes he has on his bullhorn? Terry says we're going to include a can full of miscellaneous hardware next year. There also seems to be a few metric clamps on the cables. Seems like they keep cropping up! Oh well, we'll just have to solve those problems next year.

DX For Beginners And Others

Greg, W7AGQ

Let me tell you, this writer had the hottest DX station anywhere on the afternoon of June 21. For those of you who don't know my home burned down that day. Firemen say that some parts of the house reached over 1300 degrees.

Fortunately the ham shack in the basement escaped with only smoke problems (very little water and heat damage were evident). All the QSL cards were saved which was a great relief. Those plastic holders to display cards were a little damp and quite smokey but the cards inside were in perfect shape.

Some of my friends noted on two meters that it was too bad that my new ICOM 781 and Alpha linear burned up. Appreciated the concern but my ICOM 751 survived (I'm still concerned about some smoke inside). As for the Alpha that's only wishful thinking like the \$6,000 IC-781. I did suggest to the insurance company that all the heat and water must have worked to shrink my tower and they should foot the bill for another 50 feet or so. For some reason, they didn't buy that story.

We are fully covered by insurance and the hamshack (and home) will be rebuilt. We are hopeful that we will be back in by the Christmas season. In the meantime, I'll make do in a rental house about 1,000 yards from our home and tower (a bit long for a run of coax). I'll first try to put up a wire for 75 on which to talk with my Dad, W7CRN. Hopefully, I can also get up some kind of vertical or

other antenna to catch a little of that great DX.

For those of you DXers who want to plan ahead, be sure to save time for the ARRL National the weekend after Labor Day. There will be lots of internationally known DX types here. Look for seminars, a breakfast and lots of great inside information from some of the best in the world. Father Moran, 9N1MM from Nepal, will be at the banquet. I got a note from Chod Harris, editor of the DX BULLETIN and he will be in town, too. And don't forget our home grown internationally known DXer and contester, Rush Drake, W7RM, who is the host Director.

For some reason, I haven't been listening, working or even thinking too much about DX these last few weeks. I know I'll get back into the swing of things soon. Keep listening.

73 (and 88 where appropriate).

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Important National Registration Mailing Snafu

For reasons as yet undetermined, several thousand hams in the Northwest area did not receive registration forms for the National Convention in Portland on September 9-11.

Additional mailing labels were Federal Expressed from ARRL and a second mailing was put into effect about July 20th.

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a registration form and I would encourage you to pass this along to a ham friend if he or she hasn't received one and if you have already registered.

Additionally, if you are on any Net, please give out the message and take the name, call and home town of any ham who needs a registration form and pass this info along to Al Berg, WB7SIC at 640-5456.

Pre-registrations are much lower than we anticipated. Your cooperation in alleviating this very serious problem is appreciated.

Paul **Thank You** WB6SHR

I just wanted to say a few words of thanks to all my friends in the radio club. While I was down in Southern California I really missed the club and I looked forward to hearing from you. The news letter meant a lot to me and it really helped me through some hard times. It also let me know how much I missed this area.

When the opportunity came up for me to move back up here in July, I was so excited I could hardly stand it. In fact, I didn't want to tell anyone right away because I wanted it to be a surprise at the July club meeting.

Now that I am back, there is no need for me to fly up to Portland for the National Convention. I understand a lot of you contributed your time, money and efforts to buy me a flight ticket and I really appreciate all your thoughtfulness and I will never forget it. This Club and all its members mean more to me than you know and I want to say thank you for making these arrangements.

I don't know what you plan to do with funds which were reserved for my airline ticket. But if you will allow me to make a suggestion, I would like to see the money go into a special fund for hams in need. You never know when you will run into a time of need and it can happen overnight. I know because it happened to me.

I am really happy to be back even if I am not on the air very much. I plan to attend as many club meetings as possible and stay active as a member, but I will not take on any sort of leadership roll for a while. But I am back in spirit and I plan to support the Club in any way I can and I want to thank you again for what you did for me.

Lorna's Lookout

Lorna, KA7RFD

First, I want to thank Ken, KF7JR, for doing such an excellent job in wrapping up the Newsletter last month. As a newcomer to ham radio, our Club and the Newsletter Committee, I think he made an all out effort. However, acting as Editor for one month, has made him decide he doesn't want the job permanently. He's happy to continue as Production Editor, but doesn't want to be responsible for the content. So, effective with the January, 1989 issue, we are looking for an Editor. If you would like to step forward, please contact me or any member of the Board. Bear in mind that you are going to have outstanding support from Ken in assisting you each month.

Another job up for grabs is Public Service. Randy, KZ7T, after four years has decided to step down as head honcho for Public Service. He is still willing to head up the MS150 and Hood to Coast, but it is the almost every weekend, constant races and events that have taken their toll. He, along with Bud, KC7PS and Mike, KE7HS (who are also resigning) should be congratulated on the excellent job they have done in making OTVARC so prominent in the community in Public Service events. The public relations in getting OTVARC's name and ham radio in general out to the public cannot be measured.

Burn out seems to be something that effects all our Committee Chairpersons after a while. Maybe every Committee Chairperson should have someone waiting in the wings to take over. We elect our Board members for one year, but volunteers for our Committees are almost expected to do the job until they drop. Maybe it's time to consider our Committee Chairpersons agreeing to take the job for one year as well, with the option of volunteering again.

Which brings me to another subject. Al, WB7SIC after SIX years as Co-Chairman of SEA-PAC and Chairman this year of the National, has asked to step down. How do we start to thank him for all the time and effort he has put in to make this such a success?

SEA-PAC 1989 will be very different. In addition, to Al not heading it up, the Northwest Repeater Association, our co-sponsor, has decided to "retire". While this means a whole lot more work for OTVARC members, registration, finding sites for various functions in Seaside, arranging meals, etc. it also gives us the opportunity to increase our profitability at SEA-PAC. With our Board's approval, it may be possible to retain our present dues, or even decrease our dues. It shouldn't be necessary to have fund raising events like Tupperware parties and yard sales, but it will take some effort by EVERY member of our club.

Randy, KZ7T and Jim, KB7ADH have volunteered to act as Co-Chairmen for SEA-PAC '89. They are in the talking stage right now, but plan to get things rolling as soon as the National Convention is over. They will shortly be asking for volunteers.

Triangulation Point Revisited

Jeff, KQ7I

The Oregon Triangulation Point Amateur Radio Group (OTPARG), OTVARC's ad hoc group dedicated to doing Field Day at Triangulation Point, was at it again during Field Day 1988.

Triangulation Point is a remote site in the Coast Range that was occupied in days past by a Forest Service lookout station. All that is left now is the cement foundation of the Forest Service structure and one of the truly outstanding remote radio locations in Oregon. Triangulation Point has a somewhat flat area approximately 100 feet long and 50 feet wide, with steep cliffs dropping off in every direction. Its 3,300 foot elevation dominates this area of the Coast Range, providing a spectacular view of the Pacific Ocean, the Coast Range and the Cascades.

OTPARG '88 consisted of Marty, KD7LA; Dave, W7JXU; John, NB7W; Steve, N4BOS; (who flew in from Texas for the event) John, K7RO and myself. We reached Triangulation Point via unimproved road shortly after Noon on Friday. Since there is no cover, we were cooked alive on Friday as we put up tents, antennas, etc. Our first test of the antennas was Friday evening. We worked LZ2YU on 20 CW, earning a 599 with 70 watts to a three element monoband yagi 25 feet above The Point. We listened to his subsequent reports, noting that nobody else was S9. Satisfied that we were getting out, we QSY'd to 10 meter phone. The antenna was a small monoband yagi at 15 feet above The Point. Unbelievably, this antenna performed as well as my home QTH 10 meter beam, a six element, 28 foot long monoband yagi up 72 feet. We worked a number of stations well into the night on 10 meter phone and then worked more DX on 20.

We put up the rest of the antennas on Saturday, using monobanders to avoid QRM. On 15, we used a fixed three element delta loop; on 40, a fixed two element yagi; on 80, a single element loop. The HF antenna system was the inspiration of NB7W and it performed spectacularly with the exception of the 80 meter loop. We were even able to venture onto Muscle Beach (the lower part of the 40 meter CW band on Saturday night) and kick a little sand at the kilowatts.

Despite the good conditions and location, we did more than just operate contest style. We didn't operate at mealtimes or from 3:15AM to 8:00AM on Sunday and we took time out from the HF operation

to enjoy some six meter work on Saturday afternoon. W7JXU is a VHF contest enthusiast and we used his excellent portable system to work 24 states on six, including states as far away as Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Florida. We also had a great time putting NB7W's wind generator into action.

As this article was written, we had not yet computed our score, but our 2A class station generated approximately 1,100 QSOs. The lower QSO count from our previous 2A effort was primarily due to less hours of operation. We also received bonus points for using natural power, putting stations on the air with emergency power and contacting our SEC. We were satisfied with this effort.

The weather turned brutally cold on Saturday and stayed that way on Sunday, but the low temperatures did not lower our spirits. Although we missed our many OTVARC friends who were at Champoege Park, we had a great time and we look forward to future trips to The Point.

American Red Cross Report

Paul, WB7BBG

The City Of Portland/American Red Cross simulated earthquake disaster emergency drill was held on June 24, 1988. Portland Amateur Radio Club, the designated amateur radio organization for the city, was in charge of the amateur communications, and K7RUN, John White, did a fine job of planning, scheduling and correlating the amateur communications at five city locations and at the two American Red Cross sites. A total of 31 amateur operators were involved, with two voice stations and a packet station at each location. Three OTVARC members who participated were:

WB7BBG, Paul, supervisor of the American Red Cross EOC station at the ARC headquarters, and net control for the 145.23 net.

WA6KLA, Neal, operator at the City Of Portland Public Works Dept.

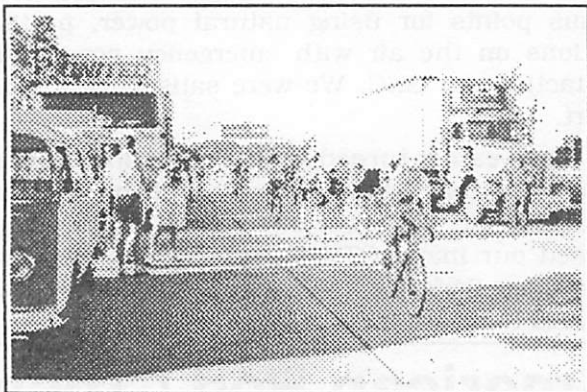
W7FBP, Dale, Dale is the Oregon SEC and was present as an observer.

A critique held on July 6th at the ARC headquarters emphasized that while overall participation and performance were quite good (and better than previous similar exercises) there were also still some areas needing improvement for future emergency operations. These areas will be considered at future meetings of the American Red Cross Disaster Amateur Radio Advisory Group.

MS 150

Randy, KZ7T

The MS 150 has come and gone. MS stands for Multiple Sclerosis and 150 is the miles that the cyclist ride. It is a pledge ride. By that I mean that every cyclist has to get pledges by the mile in order to qualify to ride. The minimum amount is \$150.00 for the entire distance. Some of the riders will get up into the thousands of dollars. My understanding, with figures incomplete at this time, is that \$130,000+ was raised.



Start Of The MS 150

Every year the number of participants seems to double. This year there were over 500 riders. If this holds true for next year it will be a bear. To me it seems to be one of the most rewarding events that I work and I believe the reason is that the cyclist are always flirting with disaster. They are on very narrow roads and they will ride three and four abreast, which they shouldn't do and we are always asking them not ride that way, which they ignore.



Some Of The MS 150 '88 Crew

We had one woman fall off her bike and break her shoulder. We had to use the 702 machine in Salem to get the ambulance as the 32 autopatch wasn't working and we were out of the range of the 04 machine. But everything worked out just fine and the lady was released from the hospital that evening.



Pat, KA7UFG, Saturday Lunch Area

It is one of the most tiring events that I work, even worse than the Hood To Coast Run. I can't figure out why we should be so worn out as all we do is to drive back and forth among the riders checking as to how they are feeling and sometimes filling their water bottles, but at the end of the tour you feel that you have been run hard and put away wet. I think that most of it is the tension and worry for the safety of the riders.

I would like to thank Bill, WC7P; Eugene, WA7FYU; Van, KE7BB; Jim, AE7W; Larry, K7YBZ; Lorna, KA7RFD; Paul, WB7BBG; Pat, KA7UFG; Jim, KB7ADH; Roy, N7DUJ; Steve, NO7V; Steven, WA7ZCL; Susan, N7EPE and Randall, WA7AWJ for just a fantastic job.

A special thanks to Lynn Apperson, WA7OWM, the owner of the 702 machine, for reprogramming his autopatch with the emergency numbers for the different cities and counties that had ambulance service. All we had to do was access them with a three digit number. It made things a little easier and if it is OK with Lynn, we will ask for the same service next year.

It went so smoothly and professionally that I hope that the same crew will help me next year.

Ham Plates

Custom Plates with the new graphics are available. The fee is \$50 in addition to the \$20 it already cost for 2 yrs. There is no special consideration for any groups at this time. We will keep you posted.

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3. Arrive at 9:30AM.

For more info call Randy, WN7W, 649-5066

House/Senate Concurrent Resolution

Your support is needed in sending your QSL card to your U.S. Senator and Representative asking them to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 127 and House Concurrent Resolution 317.

These resolutions state that:

1. The Amateur Radio Service should be supported in its emergency communications efforts in every way possible;

2. Government agencies shall avoid actions which would reduce amateur radio frequency allocations used for such purposes.

If we don't make an all out effort to get our Representatives to support these Resolutions, it will be our own fault if any Amateur Radio frequencies are taken away from us. If you haven't done so already, PLEASE SEND YOUR QSL CARD with the statement "Please support Resolution....".

Addresses are:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 127:

Senator Mark Hatfield
114 Pioneer Courthouse
Portland, OR 97204

Senator Bob Packwood
101 SW Main St., Suite 240
Portland, OR 97204-3210

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 317:

Congressman Ron Wyden
500 NE Multnomah
Suite 250

Portland, OR 97232

Congressman Les AuCoin
1220 SW 3rd St.
Suite 1716
Portland, OR 97204

If you don't reside in the Multnomah/Washington County area, your U.S. Senator and Congressman's address can be found in the blue pages of the telephone directory.

Words From The President

Roger, K7RXV

Another very busy month is behind us. This month has been mainly occupied with Field Day. I am just getting the final pieces collected to send in our report form to the ARRL. It looks like we did fairly well this year as far as contacts. Also it was the opinion of many of the 63 people present that this was one of the best field days ever from a social standpoint. Those of you who missed it missed one of our better activities. The estimated total score for this year is 3300 points. We made 333 CW QSO's, 637 phone QSO's, 14 Novice CW QSO's and 119

Novice phone QSO's after all the dupes etc. were eliminated. This gave us a total of 2900 QSO points. We are applying for bonus points for 100% emergency power, W1AW Field Day message, Message to SM and Natural Power bonus points. Each Bonus point category is good for 100 points however these points are awarded after evaluating our Field Day report at ARRL headquarters. For comparison our 1987 score was 4502 points.

We are coming up on the time to start gathering names for next years nominations for officers. The chairman for the nominating committee for this year is WN7W Randy Cobb. There are several other names under consideration for the other 2 members of the committee. If you would like to be on the committee or to run for an office now is the time to let Randy or myself know.

Well it's time for me to get off the soap box for another month. Hope to see you at the next meeting. Roger Steyaert, K7RXV.

The Extra Class Novice

Ken, KF7JR

It's been another event packed month at station KF7JR. It began with a gigantic pileup all trying to get a QSO with 4J1FS. Our little DX group (Bob, N7JXN, Buck, N7KIC and Joe, N0JO) were all chompin at the bit for this one. My good friend Maria-Elaina was listening to all this and wondering why all the profanities were necessary. "Are those CBers?" she inquired. Not knowing myself, and convinced Hams don't do that, I thought she may be correct, so I asked the group. Everyone had a good laugh and explained things. I'm learning.

2-3 hours before he got to the 7's we discussed strategies. The DX was working a split listening up. I kept trying to find the station he was in QSO with but rarely did. The rest of the group seemed to spot them regularly and attempted to find a pattern. The tension was building, he was on 6's, "2 more minutes" the DX said "I'll be with you." 20 minutes passed, "2 more minutes", 30 more minutes, "I'll be right with you in just a moment", another 20 minutes go by, "OK sevens 14.170-175." A couple of QSO's pass before I get my act going and jump in.

Boy, talk about probability. I figure my chances are nill. Joe and Buck get him quickly then Joe began tracking him perfectly for about 5 QSO's and I call just above him. Then I hear the DX say "Something radio?", I blurt "Japan Radio ????", "Yes, Japan Radio!" I DID IT !!! It took 15 minutes for me to calm down. Thanks again Joe.

Another big event came by US Mail, my first QSL card from my second HF contact. Nanette, KC4FJH, in Athens Alabama. She is glad I'm getting over my mike fright. Also my first Packet QSO took place with Bob and went like this "Mary had a little lamb", Bob returned "Her fleece as white as snow." I thought that was a fitting exchange and had to explain the significance the following day.

Well that's it for this month. Next month I'll describe my shack and equipment. 73's till then.

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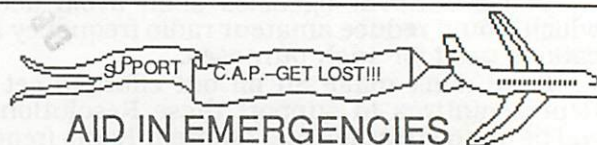
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Articles may be submitted to: Lorna Cambell, KA7RFD, Editor, 9890 S.W. Inglewood, Portland, Oregon 97225.

Cutoff date for all newsletter material is the 20th of the preceding month.

Dues for OTVARC membership are \$10.00 per year and are prorated quarterly. There is a one-time initiation fee of \$2.00. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 S.W. 104th Avenue and start at 7PM. A buffet dinner is served at 6:15PM.

All correspondence other than for this newsletter should be sent to: Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Post Office Box 25545, Portland, Oregon 97225-0545.

